

## Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the specification:

### Listing of claims:

1. (currently amended) A controlled release pharmaceutical formulation characterised in that it comprises comprising a pellet core from which a low dose active substance freely soluble in water can be released in a controlled manner independently from pH thereby providing a lower biological variability.
2. (original claim) A controlled release pharmaceutical formulation characterised in that it comprises a pellet core comprising at least one insoluble permeable polymer and at least one surfactant and optionally other excipients.
3. The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 2 wherein said insoluble permeable polymer is selected from the group of acrylic polymers or alkylcelluloses or hydroxyalkylcelluloses or a combination thereof.
4. The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 3 wherein said insoluble permeable polymer is a copolymer of ethylacrylate and methylmethacrylate in a ratio of 2:1, optionally being in the form of a 30 % aqueous dispersion.
5. (currently amended) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim[[s]] 1 [[1-4]] wherein the diameter of the pellet cores is from about 0.5 to about 1.25 mm.
6. (currently amended) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim[[s]] 1 [[1-5]] wherein said pellet core is coated with a gastroresistant and/or release controlling coating.
7. (original claim) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 6 wherein the mass of the applied coating is from about 5 to about 10 % relative to the mass of dried pellet cores.
8. (original claim) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 7 wherein the mass of the applied coating is from about 5 to about 8 % relative to the mass of dried pellet cores.
9. (currently amended) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim[[s]] 6 [[6-8]] wherein the coating comprises at least one polymer soluble at pH values higher than about 5.5 and at least one polymer with a pH independent solubility.

- 10.(original claim) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 9 wherein said polymer soluble at higher pH values is an anionic copolymer of methacrylic acid and ethylacrylate and said polymer with pH independent solubility is a copolymer of ethylacrylate and methylmethacrylate.
- 11.(currently amended) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claims 1 4-10 wherein the pellets are filled into capsules or sachets or compressed into tablets.
- 12.(currently amended) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claims 1 4-11 wherein the pellet cores are prepared by using the methods of extrusion and spheronization.
- 13.(original claim) The pharmaceutical formulation according to any of the preceding claims wherein the freely soluble low-dose active substance is tamsulosin or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
- 14.(currently amended) A process for the preparation of pharmaceutical formulations according to claims 1 4-13 characterised in that it comprises the following steps: preparation of the blend of the ingredients for the core, granulation, extrusion and spheronization, drying and optionally coating.
- 15.(original claim) Use of the pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 13 for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of benign prostatic hyperplasia.